TO MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

CC: Dean Wonnacott

Dean Turner

Asst. Dean Johnson

Mr. Bruce Gill

Mr. Robert Hinton

FROM Dr. Armstrong

Inter-Office Memo

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT

SUBJECT BSMU USE OF ADIRONDACK HOUSE

DATE Jan. 19, 1972

On 18 January I met with Bruce Gill, Bob Hinton, Dean Wonnacott, Dean Turner, and Assistant Dean Johnson to discuss the space needs of BSMU for a black cultural center in Adirondack House beginning with the academic year 1972-73.

I indicated that the College wished to accommodate in as fair a way as possible the felt needs and necessities of the black students for a black cultural center and for adequate space to that end. I advised Bruce and Bob that the College believes the lounge, the small kitchen, and the rooms on the second floor above the lounge will provide ample space for the black center. I indicated that I would be unwilling at present to move the Placement Service and the ROTC offices out of Adirondack House. Both serve the whole institution, and I do not judge that the black student center needs space beyond that indicated above. I did, however, without making any promises indicate that I would keep an open mind with regard to expansion of the black cultural center if and when there was a demonstrated need. I made it clear that I did not know what the future of Adirondack House might be and that I would always have to take into account the needs in the college community as a whole.

Both Bruce and Bob indicated a willingness to consider these arrangements favorably and both naturally expressed their interest in the possibility of future expansion. So that there can be no misunderstanding or mistaking my meaning I must make it clear that no commitment or promise was made for expansion in Adirondack House by BSMU for the black cultural center although I did indicate that I did not have a closed mind on that matter.

Dean Wonnacott noted that Adirondack House, like all other college facilities, will be available for use in the summer by the college for the Language Schools or other college purposes. This was understood by all with assurances to Bruce Gill that any special belongings or equipment of BSMU could be set aside and secured for the summer.

We then adjourned our meeting and visited Adirondack House and toured the area proposed for the black cultural center. The facilities and

space appeared to meet with the approval of Bruce and Bob, and Bruce then indicated his wish to have a meeting of BSMU on Wednesday evening, 19 January at 10:00 p.m. to discuss the center. It was agreed that the meeting of BSMU could be held in Willard Lounge that evening and Lillian Johnson agreed to make the arrangements.

At the end I asked Bruce to develop a statement of program for the center and requested that he try to indicate any specific physical changes which might be needed.

James I. Armstrong
President